



# THE RICOCHET

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<http://www.conservation.state.mo.us/areas/ranges/lakecity>



## What's New at the Range

The Range has had several changes the last three months. One of the biggest news making changes has been the promotion of several familiar personnel at the range.

First, David Wyatt, the Outdoors Education Center Supervisor of Lake City for past 15 years was promoted to Outdoors Skill Supervisor (OSS) last November. He is now at the KC Regional Office and is enjoying the new challenges of the job.

Steven Elliott, Range Officer was promoted to Outdoor Education Center Supervisor. I have enjoyed my time with the Department of Conservation the last three years and I look forward to working with all of you.

With the two promotions a void was created for a Range Officer. In January, the range welcomed Carson Lepper. He has been with the Department for five years. His vast experience varies from working at Runge Nature Center as Staff to working in Fiscal handling the sales of permits and other administrative tasks. The changes at Lake City do not stop at personnel changes. In January, we were able to purchase two new Pro-Matic Trap machines to replace the aging Remington 4100s. These new trap machines have enhanced the Range public service and its trap shooting programs offered during the summer.

As you can see the Range is

public a better place to shoot and have fun with family members.

## How Far Is Too Far?

When was the last time you patterned your turkey gun? Last year? Two years ago? Do you plan on shooting the same shells through it this year? Or are you planning to try some of the latest shot loads on the market? Maybe you picked up a new choke tube? Well, if it's been awhile, why not reacquaint yourself with how your gun shoots before you get out in the field.

First, a definition, AMaximum Range@ which is defined as the distance in which five pellets hit the spine or brain of a life size turkey target and none of the patterns show fewer than three pellets in that zone. To find your maximum range, start off shooting five targets at 30 or 40 yards. Then move the targets up or down range in five yard increments, until the maximum range criteria have been reached. Subtract 10 yards as a buffer and consider this distance the maximum humane range for that gun, choke and ammunition combination.

The next part may get a little technical, but bear with me. Another equally important consideration is the amount of energy your pellets carry down range. Yes, your #6 shot load may put a whole handful of pellets in the kill

zone at 50 yards, but are they going to be able to punch through all that feather

According to a major ammunition manufacturer 2.6 foot pounds (ft-lb) of energy must be retained in order for a pellet to penetrate feathers and meat and still break bone. In order to calculate the energy of your pellets, you can use the following formula:  $E = WV^2/450,240$ , where  $W$  is a single pellet's weight in grains (gr). The conversion here is; 1oz lead shot = 437.5 gr.\*  $V$  is the velocity in feet per second. I know that not everyone has access to a chronograph, but reasonable assumptions can be made with most of the numbers provided by the manufacturers of your respective shotshell. The general information for a specific shotshell can be found in most of the manufacturer's product catalogs or on their websites.

With all that being said, the **most** important thing is to feel confident that you can make a clean humane shot on your target. If you have a doubt that you can't make a clean kill, then just wait for another opportunity. Really, what's the worst that could happen? You get to spend another day in the field? Is that really a huge sacrifice? Of course, you can apply that mind set to all types of hunting, not just during turkey season. Hunt safe and have fun.

\* A Winchester Ammunition Training Aid@

Lead Shot	#6	#5	#4
Pellets / Oz., Lead	225	170	135

## Post Season Scouting

It is now February, and the 2004 archery season is now over. So what now? Do you sit around and watch football for the rest of the winter? No, you do not! That is why they make VCR's. This is the time of year you gather valuable information for next year's bow or gun season. Whitetail deer leave a lot of sign throughout a deer

together. Post season scouting is probably the most important, and overlooked aspect of whitetail deer hunting. When you're out scouting you need to look for obvious sign such as rubs, scrapes, and deer trails. These signs are not so obvious when the foliage of spring starts growing again; therefore, you must get out in the woods while the sign is fresh and the foliage is thin. These signs will show you how to effectively hunt the whitetails in your area. For example, if you stumble across a rub line, you have really found something special; especially, if the trees he rubbed are as big as your arm or bigger! Big rubs mean big bucks! Look at the general direction the rubs point towards. The rubs usually lead towards his sanctuary and preferred bedding area.

If you follow the rub line in the opposite direction, it will usually show you his preferred feeding source for that particular time of year. This is just one small sign that could have a profound effect on your hunting success next year.

There are a lot of other signs out there that will show you different things, but you must get out there and find a sign.

In addition to finding pertinent sign, you also have the opportunity to find shed antlers. Look in areas where deer spend most of their time. You may stumble across an antler of a giant buck that is on your land! I hope this information will motivate you to turn that VCR on, and get out in the woods during the late season. Good Luck!!

## Range Hours

**Starting May 4, 2005**  
**Range hours will be Noon-6:00 p.m.**

Lake City Range

## Range Staff

Supervisor            Steven Elliott  
 Range Officer        Carson Lepper  
 Range Assistant      Chantz Brown  
 Weekend Hourly      Marc Jamieson

**March 17**      Youth .22 Cal  
 Metallic Target Shooting  
 Lake City Range

**March 25**      5-Stand Shoot  
 Lake City Range

**March 27**      Advanced Scrimshaw  
 Lake City Range

**April 2**        Bird Watching  
 Lake City Range

**April 5**        Leather Work  
 Lake City Range

**April 6**        Basic Turkey Hunting  
 Lake City Range

**April 8**        Shotgun Patterning  
 Lake City Range

**April 9**        Hunter Education Class  
 Lake City Range

**April 11**      Turkey Beard & Tail Mounting  
 Lake City Range

**April 12**      Leather Work  
 Lake City Range

**April 13**      Shotgun Reloading  
 Lake City Range

**April 16**      Ladies Firearm Safety  
 Phase I  
 Lake City Range

**April 19**      Advanced Archery  
 Lake City Range

**April 21**      Nuisance Animal Control  
 Lake City Range

**April 23**      5-Stand Shoot  
 Lake City Range

**April 25**      Mushroom Hunting  
 Lake City Range

**April 29**      Intro. To Muzzleloading  
 Lake City Range

**May 2**        Advanced Archery  
 Lake City Range

## Calendar of Events

**February 10**    Firearm Care & Cleaning  
 Lake City Range

**February 12**    Hunter Education Class  
 Lake City Range

**February 15**    Fly Tying  
 Lake City Range

**February 16**    Hide Tanning  
 Lake City Range

**February 19**    Basics of Wood Carving  
 Lake City Range

**February 22**    Fly Tying  
 Lake City Range

**February 23**    Hide Tanning  
 Lake City Range

**February 26**    Basics of Wood Carving II  
 Lake City Range

**March 1**        Youth Air Rifle  
 Lake City Range

**March 5**        Reloaders Clinic &  
 Swap Shop  
 Lake City Range

**March 7**        Beginners Archery  
 Lake City Range

**March 9**        Nuisance Animal Clinic  
 Lake City Range

**March 12**      Hunter Education Class  
 Lake City Range

**March 15**      Reloading Metallic

<b>May 4</b>	NOTE: The Lake City Range will be going to Summer Hours
<b>May 7</b>	Pan Fishing Clinic I Lake City Range
<b>May 8</b>	Mom's Shoot Free Lake City Range
<b>May 8</b>	Pan Fishing Clinic II Lake City Range
<b>May 10</b>	Youth Trapping Education Lake City Range
<b>May 11</b>	Youth Trapping Education Lake City Range
<b>May 12</b>	Youth Trapping Education Lake City Range
<b>May 14</b>	Hunter Education Class Lake City Range
<b>May 15</b>	GPS Class Lake City Range
<b>May 18</b>	Orienteering / Mapping Lake City Range
<b>May 21</b>	Ladies Firearm Safety Phase I Lake City Range
<b>May 22</b>	Orienteering Practical Lake City Range
<b>May 25</b>	Prairie Dog Shooting Lake City Range
<b>May 27</b>	Archery Repair Lake City Range
<b>May 30</b>	CLOSED
<b>May 31</b>	Teens and .22 Calibers Lake City Range